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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

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September 10, 1984

Honorable William J. Hughes
Chairman, Subcommittee on Crime
Committee on the Judiciary
207 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

H.R. 4028, which would establish a high level Office of Drug Abuse Policy for coordination of all federal efforts to combat drug abuse, will be considered by the House today. In light of its imminent passage and your future conference discussions on resolving the differences between H.R. 4028 and its Senate counterpart, it is important that you be aware of several intelligence concerns raised by that bill, S. 1787.

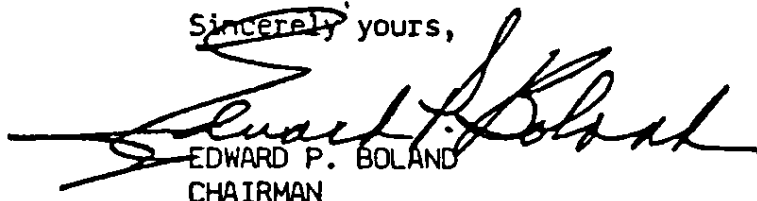
Unlike the coordinating and leadership role H.R. 4028 would give the Director of a new Office of Drug Abuse Policy (ODAP), S. 1787 invests the Chairman of a National Drug Enforcement Policy Board (NDEPB) with final budgetary, personnel and other authorities over any agencies, including intelligence agencies, contributing to the national drug effort. Such authority, in my view, is inappropriate and inevitably will intrude into intelligence matters having no bearing on narcotics intelligence matters. It could also involve the Chairman of the NDEPB unnecessarily in matters directly affecting intelligence sources and methods.

Since H.R. 4028 avoids such concentration of power in the person of the Director of the ODAP, I urge that in negotiations with the Senate, you insist on the House approach to these matters. An explicit disclaimer that the Director of Central Intelligence's authorities are not affected by any House-Senate compromise bill would be one way to accomplish this. H.R. 4028 now contains such a disclaimer relating to the authorities of the Secretary of Defense and the Administrator of the Veteran's Administration.

I or the Committee staff would be happy to expand on these concerns at your convenience.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,



EDWARD P. BOLAND
CHAIRMAN